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CHILDREN'S BUREAU

KATHARINE F. LENROOT, CHIEF

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

FRANCES PERKINS

SECRETARY



THE CHILD — MONTHLY NEWS SUMMARY

Volume 1, Number 5

November 1936

THE SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

Part III — CHILD-WELFARE SERVICES

BY MARY IRENE ATKINSON, DIRECTOR,
CHILD-WELFARE DIVISION, CHILDREN'S BUREAU

THE TERM "child welfare" has been used very loosely in this country. It has, for the most part, meant something different to each person. For example, in one State a prominent attorney with an official position asked if he were right in assuming that child-welfare services meant removing children from their own homes and placing them in institutions. He said that any publicity in his State about child welfare always seemed to center upon the placement of children in institutions or upon a campaign to get funds to establish or maintain institutions.

To some people child welfare means a very narrow scope of activity such as the placement of children in foster homes, whereas to others it includes many services other than child placing and supervision. This broader conception of the content of child-welfare programs, it is hoped, will be extended through the partnership that the Social Security Act makes possible between the State welfare agencies and the United States Children's Bureau.

The Program Organized

More than 8 months have now elapsed since the provisions of the Social Security Act went into effect. Title V, part 3,

authorizes an appropriation of \$1,500,000 annually for Federal grants to the States for the purpose of assisting State public-welfare agencies in "establishing, extending, and strengthening, especially in predominantly rural areas, public-welfare services for the protection and care of homeless, dependent, and neglected children and children in danger of becoming delinquent." The funds are to be used for "payment of part of the cost of district, county, or other local child-welfare services in areas predominantly rural and for developing State services for the encouragement and assistance of adequate methods of community child-welfare organization in areas predominantly rural and other areas of special need." The Child-Welfare Division of the Children's Bureau is responsible, under the direction of the Chief of the Children's Bureau, for the administration of this section of the act.

This section of the act further provides that plans for child-welfare services are to be developed jointly by the Children's Bureau and the State agency. This broad provision for joint planning does not appear in any of the other titles of the Social Security Act.

known that what happens to children depends to a considerable extent upon where they live. Ever since the first White House Conference, children's workers in this country have been repeating the principles which this conference enunciated and which each succeeding White House Conference has repeated, but in spite of this, everyone knows that children are still suffering as a result of social and economic disadvantages.

The city-dwelling child whose own family fails him has at least a chance of being provided for through one of the social mechanisms that exist in urban communities. Too often the child in the rural community whose family is inadequate is not discovered until some tragic crisis brings him to the attention of public officials. Thus it is important that government concern itself with the well-being of children living in rural America.

In the development of the program for child-welfare services, the philosophy of the Children's Bureau has been to take the States where it found them in their children's program and to attempt to plan with them for services that, to some extent, would fill existing gaps rather than to encourage the use of Federal funds to finance services that have previously been provided by the States and are no longer in the experimental stage.

What the State Plans Provide

All the plans include provision for additional personnel on existing State staffs for the purposes indicated in the act, and for local workers in certain selected areas. In the majority of the plans submitted there has also been provision for in-service training of the staff, or for short periods of leave for education of persons having some basic preparation for social work but needing further training, especially in the children's field.

The procedures vary, however, by which State staffs and local staffs are bringing the program to bear on the lives of individual children and upon communities.

Every effort has been made to do the thing that Grace Abbott once said was the only way in which one could deal justly with children; namely, to deal with each one differently.

At the close of the fiscal year progress reports were requested from the States.

The progress report of one State includes the following:

In order to intensify the field services for children's work, three children's case consultants have been attached to the field staff. One of these case consultants accompanies the field representative on her regular routine visit to the county and remains for a week or 10 days after the field representative has left on her regular schedule. In this way intensive supervision of children's work is facilitated, because basic and fundamental policies are being more carefully interpreted than the field representative has ever had time to do. The needs of the county staffs have been illuminated for the State staff by this consultation service. We think this method offers possibilities for in-service training, and it may become the method by means of which we can go forward with a practical training on the job process.

One of the Middle-Western States gave the following report on local activities:

An organizing and service program was developed by State and district supervisors in the counties. Conferences were held with county officials and lay persons, and through the local workers in demonstration areas case-work services were provided during the month of June which affected 306 children. Two special districts have been organized for demonstration purposes on the basis of a fifty-fifty participation by the counties and the State. There is great need for trained workers with rural experience, and our plan for the new fiscal year involves provision for continuation of training for partially trained workers who will fit into the special districts which have been set up.

From a far Western State that included in its plan a special demonstration in connection with a children's home, in which children had been accepted without any case-work service, the following report was received:

In accordance with the plan for child-welfare services submitted at the beginning of the period, demonstration case-work services have been supplied for the past 3 months to a children's institution. The Board has requested that the demonstration continue for an additional 3 months' period. Study has been given to the situation of individual children

coming from rural communities, with the result that adequate plans have been made and the number of children in the institution has been reduced from 72 to 29. Ten of these children were returned to their mothers, and their own homes were reestablished under the program of aid to dependent children. Twenty were placed with relatives without financial assistance being necessary. Four went into free foster homes; five were placed in boarding homes; three were transferred to an institution for the feeble-minded; and one was sent to a correctional institution.

One State, which began its program for child-welfare services on April 1, concentrated on a training program in order that workers already available in rural areas might be better equipped to handle children's cases. The progress report from this State, received at the end of June, contains the following paragraph regarding the training plan:

Our plan for carrying out the provisions of the Social Security Act concerning child-welfare services was a training program, the objective of which was to provide workers in rural areas with an opportunity for training and supervision while handling actual child-welfare cases. As the project was set up and accepted by the Children's Bureau, workers were to be released from their local counties for a short period of intensive training, after which they were to return to their positions, where they were to be responsible for children's cases in their counties. During their absence they were to be replaced by experienced case workers loaned from other communities.

These excerpts from progress reports indicate the wide variation that exists in the plans in spite of the fact that they all come within the broad legal framework of the Social Security Act. They also illustrate the principle that the Children's Bureau has attempted to follow; namely, that of planning with the States at the point where they now are in the development of their services to children.

In 308 counties or districts (in four States districts are composed of several towns) child-welfare services have been put into operation with the use of Federal funds, supplemented by some resources furnished by the localities themselves. Workers attached to the State welfare departments are providing some case work and general child-welfare service in 192 additional counties in order to demonstrate

the necessity for more extensive work in individual counties. Two hundred and seventy-one social workers are now at work in local rural communities, and their salaries are paid by Federal funds. In addition, full-time service is given by 133 workers and part-time service by 96 workers employed by State welfare departments for the purpose of assisting local units and organizing State-wide activities.

The Child and the Family

The Children's Bureau and the several States working together in the child-welfare program in this country recognize that economic and social hazards which threaten the security of family life are matters of primary concern to all who are interested in children. One of the prerequisites in adequate provision for any child is the stabilization of his family life. There is no substitute for a child's own home, in which the father is the responsible economic head of the family and the mother provides the care and the feeling of security that are so essential to all children. The various measures included in the Social Security Act concern, in the final analysis, factors that cannot help but have a tremendous effect upon family life and, therefore, are in their broad aspects, child-welfare measures.

The terms of the act making provision for aid to dependent children, as the States revamp their existing mothers' aid laws to conform with the Federal act, will make it possible to broaden the scope of assistance to children in their own homes to the point where many more children can be cared for by their own kin than has heretofore been possible.

One of the important tasks that lies ahead is providing increased protection for the rural child against the hazards of neglect, dependency, and lack of understanding. Law and administrative structure are valueless unless they affect the lives of children constructively.

Another task is that of increasing the content of our conception of what constitutes child welfare, and, finally, it is important to remember that all the provisions relating to children in the Social Security Act are in complete harmony with

the pronouncement of the first White House Conference in 1909, which declared home life to be "the highest and finest product of civilization" and the conservation of a child's own home to be "the chief aim of child-welfare work."

THE OKLAHOMA DEMONSTRATION

The health and social needs of Indian mothers and children living not on a reservation but as members of a community in which the majority of the population is white, have been made the subject of a co-operative undertaking by State and Federal agencies under the Social Security Act.

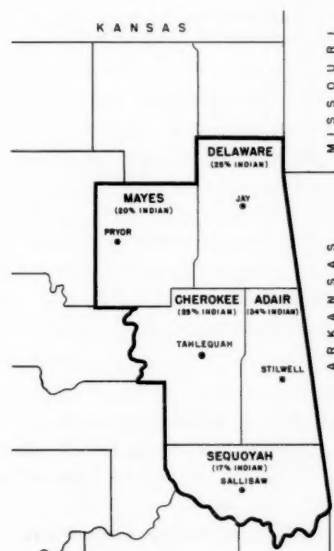
An area including five counties in eastern Oklahoma, with a central office in Tahlequah, county seat of Cherokee County, was selected for a demonstration set up to continue over an indefinite period. The area covered is largely rural in character and has a population in which the proportion of Indians is high; also, the women and children of the district are in particular need of both health and welfare services.

In this demonstration the United States Office of Indian Affairs, United States Children's Bureau, and United States Public Health Service are cooperating with the State Health Department of Oklahoma. The staff on duty November 1 consisted of (1) a full-time District health officer; (2) a medical director for the maternal and child-health services, who is a pediatrician on the Children's Bureau staff; (3) a supervisor of public-health nursing; (4) a sanitary engineer; and (5) a clerk. In addition there is a county nurse serving in each of the 5 counties. These nurses are under the direction of the supervisor of public-health nursing.

Additional personnel provided for in the plan but not yet on duty includes an educational director of maternal and child health nursing, a nutritionist, a dentist,

a child-welfare worker, and sanitary engineers, clerks, and additional field nurses for the individual counties.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA SHOWING THE FIVE NORTHEASTERN COUNTIES INCLUDED IN THE HEALTH DEMONSTRATION



The purposes of the demonstration are to establish an effective maternal and

child-hygiene service; to promote public-health education; and to control communicable diseases.

The county seats are small towns of approximately 2,000 inhabitants. The rural population is scattered over a hilly, wooded section in the eastern part and a more level district in the western section. In order to visit isolated districts and homes the medical directors and public-health nurses each travel many hundred miles a month.

TWENTY-THREE MILES FROM TOWN



An Indian family was living in this isolated shack when visited by the pediatrician and two public-health nurses. The small aperture visible in the side wall was the only "window."

Housing conditions in these rural areas are for the most part very poor. There are many 1-room log cabins, and in these sometimes 8 or 10 persons live. Many of the houses are old, dilapidated, and unscreened. Sanitary arrangements of any kind are almost totally lacking, and contamination of the water supply, usually obtained from a near-by spring, is frequent.

People come in from miles around to attend the immunization clinics held at the health center and in the counties. Widespread uneasiness existed in regard to

contamination of water supplies due to drought conditions, and the health unit carried on an intensive immunization campaign against typhoid during the summer.



There were 900 persons at one typhoid clinic, and a total of more than 8,000 had been vaccinated against typhoid by the end of September.

About 1,500 persons had received either diphtheria immunization or smallpox vaccination, and additional requests were pouring in. The Indians, especially, proved themselves eager to accept the services offered by the health demonstration.

Prenatal and child-health conferences are held for all mothers and children, white, Indian, and Negro. Child-health conferences are scheduled regularly at least once a month in the five county seats and in some other centers. In addition, itinerant conferences have been held to reach people in the more remote districts.



STATE PLANS IN ACTION

Maternal and
infant health
centers in
North Carolina

A group assembled at one of the sixty-odd maternity and infancy centers recently established in North Carolina through the aid of social-security funds, is shown below, reprinted from the October 1936 issue of *Health Bulletin*, published by the North Carolina State Board of Health.



LINDEN HEALTH CENTER FOR COLORED PEOPLE,
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, N.C.

The physician in charge of the clinic comments, "All the persons shown in this picture were present at the Linden Health Center last month. At these centers we give prenatal care, well-baby guidance, and advice as to diet and general care. In addition, the center is used as an immunization point, particularly for diphtheria and smallpox."

Social
security
in Ohio

Eight social-security plans are in operation in the State of Ohio. These include not only the three in which the Children's Bureau cooperates, but aid to dependent children, the blind, and the aged administered by the Social Security Board; the public-health services under the United States Public Health Service, and the provisions for vocational rehabilitation under the United States Office of Education. A mimeographed booklet, "Social Security in Ohio," issued by the Division of Public Assistance (State Department of Public

Welfare, Columbus, Ohio, 1936, 24 pp.) describes the State set-up and accomplishments of the various plans. The Ohio State Department of Public Welfare has also published folders, "Rural Child-Welfare Service," "Ohio Counties Develop their Welfare Programs through a Social Service Index," and "Aid to Dependent Children."

West Virginia
plan for
crippled
children

The number of orthopedic field nurses in West Virginia has been increased from two to four through the receipt of social-security funds. An orthopedic supervisor and a social-service coordinator have been added to the staff.

A new feature of the work is the use of boarding homes near each of the four orthopedic centers, Huntington, Charleston, Wheeling, and Martinsburg, for children whose home conditions are unsatisfactory or whose homes are inaccessible during the winter. *The Forgotten Cripple* (Official organ. West Virginia Society for Crippled Children; Charleston, W. Va.), September 1936, p. 3.

From the
Social
Security
Board

"Aid to Dependent Children Under the Social Security Act" is the title of a 15-page leaflet prepared by the Bureau of Public Assistance of the Social Security Board and issued as Informational Service Circular No. 6. This contains, in addition to general information, a directory of State officials and agencies responsible for aid to dependent children, June 30, 1936.

Informational Service Circular No. 7, "Social Security--What and Why?" contains informal discussions by R. Gordon Wagenet, Director, Bureau of Unemployment Compensation; Jane M. Hoey, Director, Bureau of Public Assistance; Murray W. Latimer, Director, Bureau of Federal Old-Age Benefits; and Louis Resnick, Director, Informational Service, all of the Social Security Board. Both these leaflets are available free upon request from the Social Security Board, Washington, D.C.

FEDERAL GRANTS TO STATES FOR MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES UNDER THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

The three social-security programs administered by the Children's Bureau are approaching Nation-wide operation.

Forty-seven States are participating in the maternal and child-health program; 38 States are cooperating on the crippled-children's program; and 41 States have received grants for child-welfare services. In addition, the District of Columbia is

sharing in all three programs and Alaska and Hawaii are receiving grants for maternal and child-health services and for services for crippled children.

Legislatures meeting in January will probably provide the necessary authority and funds, so that all States will be able to cooperate in all three parts of the program.

FEDERAL FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1937, AND
FEDERAL FUNDS BUDGETED IN STATE PLANS APPROVED BY THE CHILDREN'S BUREAU

	Maternal and child-health services		Services for crippled children		Child-welfare services	
	Federal funds available for fiscal year 1937 a/	Federal funds budgeted	Federal funds available for fiscal year 1937 a/	Federal funds budgeted	Federal funds available for fiscal year 1937 a/	Federal funds budgeted
Alabama	\$103,217.66	\$103,217.56	\$70,676.57	\$34,483.20	\$55,539.54	\$55,490.00
Alaska	45,336.91	21,100.00	28,915.51	3,000.00	b/ 10,942.31	—
Arizona	53,951.04	c/ 54,404.06	36,081.26	34,461.00	18,789.28	18,789.28
Arkansas	80,368.70	80,243.46	64,210.46	—	36,958.41	36,958.41
California	130,610.45	c/ 130,690.45	101,084.27	66,639.56	52,643.91	43,520.00
Colorado	73,224.52	65,592.74	61,531.60	61,500.00	19,450.97	19,450.97
Connecticut	50,502.34	47,360.00	53,476.46	—	18,703.99	18,703.99
Delaware	35,282.66	29,070.71	31,956.98	—	16,806.18	12,110.98
District of Columbia	43,057.58	42,947.00	34,216.74	25,000.00	14,166.67	10,000.00
Florida	85,471.80	85,471.80	50,005.34	50,000.00	31,873.60	30,820.00
Georgia	144,565.39	c/ 163,533.62	85,412.32	—	35,157.00	d/ 35,157.00
Hawaii	46,896.73	46,896.73	35,436.56	25,000.00	b/ 13,121.55	—
Idaho	47,611.58	c/ 49,321.65	36,642.70	30,124.84	18,684.37	18,023.14
Illinois	157,275.73	86,232.50	141,235.94	—	46,545.00	46,545.00
Indiana	85,696.35	69,618.50	78,349.38	—	36,427.29	36,427.29
Iowa	78,506.34	51,752.31	67,390.97	57,576.94	37,325.57	37,325.57
Kansas	68,604.00	61,526.00	48,998.96	36,610.00	39,243.84	39,243.84
Kentucky	92,607.10	92,130.88	83,310.87	83,310.87	b/ 43,259.42	—
Louisiana	93,028.22	52,668.89	67,469.13	—	46,233.77	46,233.77
Maine	55,610.10	54,357.00	40,138.47	40,000.00	25,883.13	20,072.00
Maryland	62,347.67	56,666.39	54,022.09	39,000.00	30,479.06	22,940.00
Massachusetts	94,511.94	84,129.00	90,882.67	84,676.00	24,154.48	20,320.30
Michigan	119,500.59	114,901.51	100,284.49	100,284.41	51,255.70	45,325.00
Minnesota	85,267.53	69,434.00	73,053.22	c/ 79,061.00	64,128.45	42,592.00
Mississippi	107,446.86	c/ 110,696.25	65,997.06	14,625.00	b/ 40,610.62	—
Missouri	103,894.81	e/ 19,351.06	67,967.54	e/ 38,324.00	55,638.93	55,638.93
Montana	50,270.61	50,270.00	30,388.27	20,000.00	23,093.80	23,093.80
Nebraska	60,224.13	f/ —	61,163.92	46,163.92	36,390.69	33,490.82
Nevada	69,067.69	40,122.28	29,555.22	—	15,592.39	15,800.00
New Hampshire	43,289.31	32,575.00	35,262.65	4,000.00	15,280.13	c/ 15,530.00
New Jersey	90,873.83	80,934.73	115,715.35	115,715.35	32,082.31	26,620.00
New Mexico	70,467.96	70,467.96	32,428.81	30,000.00	16,407.77	16,407.77
New York	246,294.78	210,580.75	210,732.35	83,670.00	b/ 47,849.27	—
North Carolina	158,503.40	137,852.22	96,016.20	95,118.00	72,122.96	62,681.00
North Dakota	55,075.25	36,931.10	41,393.19	—	20,385.00	20,385.00
Ohio	152,165.54	96,378.00	159,121.65	159,120.80	69,666.47	54,860.00
Oklahoma	90,600.15	68,272.41	56,990.59	56,825.00	54,079.99	50,937.49
Oregon	43,615.27	—	41,787.84	—	26,187.88	c/ 26,188.68
Pennsylvania	240,312.74	d/ 196,775.00	189,243.24	189,243.21	93,404.03	92,690.03
Rhode Island	39,678.63	33,783.00	37,703.91	6,592.62	b/ 10,953.84	—
South Carolina	103,742.66	103,222.00	57,251.74	37,863.00	b/ 35,054.71	—
South Dakota	55,567.27	34,609.22	40,005.28	40,005.28	26,424.39	23,040.00
Tennessee	35,406.47	51,570.00	76,026.55	63,104.42	b/ 41,509.13	—
Texas	220,171.47	190,990.00	152,730.02	152,730.02	98,461.45	90,758.43
Utah	58,135.44	53,088.61	37,720.30	37,038.19	17,466.76	17,197.50
Vermont	51,736.58	30,834.44	29,008.66	16,000.00	18,963.16	18,890.00
Virginia	103,622.60	91,968.13	70,850.00	c/ 74,250.00	52,608.10	43,338.50
Washington	60,446.69	58,536.45	60,196.47	d/ 43,500.00	23,747.04	23,747.04
West Virginia	91,437.74	90,132.35	79,555.00	c/ 83,672.00	39,926.54	38,805.00
Wisconsin	76,800.65	e/ 77,008.68	71,102.41	58,412.00	44,644.94	37,852.00
Wyoming	50,210.13	d/ 28,120.30	32,419.59	d/ 16,000.00	b/ 12,648.03	—
Total	4,520,741.69	3,748,136.90	3,511,721.17	2,330,900.63	1,609,083.82	1,443,131.89

a/ Includes, in addition to the allotment for the fiscal year 1937, any balance of Federal funds in State July 1, 1936, and any part of unrequested 1936 allotment available for budgeting for fiscal year 1937.
b/ Apportionment for 1937. No plan has yet been received.
c/ Excess of funds budgeted over funds available due to differ-

ence between estimated and actual balance of Federal funds reported by State as on hand June 30, 1936. Adjustments are being made.
d/ Nine months.
e/ Six months.
f/ 1936 plan approved; 1937 plan under consideration.
g/ Estimated.

MATERNAL, INFANT, AND CHILD HEALTH

NEWS AND RESEARCH NOTES

Program of Child Neurology Research

The new program announced by Child Neurology Research, operating on a grant from the Friedsam Foundation, with headquarters in New York City, is planned "to stimulate research in child neurology and allied fields, so that physicians and other scientists may contribute to the thorough investigation of the many problems bearing upon the care and cure of those afflicted with any of the nervous and mental disorders from birth through adolescence." Original research work will be encouraged by stipends or scholarships in the following fields: organic and functional diseases of the nervous system in children; neuroses and psychoses of early life; and social, personality, and home problems. *Official release. Child, Neurology Research (116 West Fifty-Ninth St., New York, N.Y.).*

The council members of Child Neurology Research are, in addition to the director, Dr. Bernard Sachs, as follows: Three neuro-psychiatrists, Dr. Louis Hausman of the Cornell Medical Center and Bellevue Hospital, Dr. Foster Kennedy of Bellevue, and Dr. Frederick Tilney, director of research of the Neurological Institute; three pediatricians, Dr. Stanley Brady of St. Vincent's Hospital, Dr. Howard Reid Craig of Babies' Hospital and the Neurological Institute, and Dr. Herman Schwarz of Mount Sinai Hospital; an orthopedist, Dr. Lewis Clark Wagner of the Hospital for the Ruptured and Crippled; and two laymen, William E. Grady, Associate Superintendent of Public Schools of New York, and State Senator Nathan Straus.

An advisory committee has also been appointed, which includes three eminent neurologists from foreign countries: Professor Georges Guillaumin of Paris, Dr. Kinnier Wilson of London, and Professor Otto Marburg of Vienna.

* * * * *

Mental-hygiene study in eastern health district of Baltimore

The Baltimore Health Department has announced the completion of its survey of mental diseases in the eastern health district of Baltimore.

A second phase of this study has now been started with two experimental procedures. One of these is a consulting psychiatric service for local physicians who have cases presenting mental or behavior symptoms. The number of physicians availing themselves of this service is reported to be steadily increasing.

The other experimental procedure is taking the form of an effort to prevent the development of behavior problems in children by consultation with and advice to the mother, beginning in the early infancy of the child. Regular clinics are held at the infant-hygiene station for consultation of the mothers with the psychiatrist. *Baltimore Health News (published monthly by the Baltimore Health Department), Baltimore, Md., October 1936, pp. 61-62.*

* * * * *

New dental clinic in Chicago

The new Walter G. Zoller Memorial Dental Clinic of the University of Chicago, made possible by a bequest of nearly \$3,000,000 from the estate of the late Walter G. Zoller of Chicago, is soon to open. The clinic, which is under the direction of Dr. James Roy Blaney, has been established in the Billings Memorial Hospital. Three goals have been set for it; services to the poor, training of dentists in the more advanced fields of practice, and research in dentistry, including orthodontia. *New York Times, October 1, 1936.*

BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES

THE FREQUENCY OF CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT SERVICES FOR INFANTS, by Ruth L. Lewis. *Nilbank Memorial Fund Quarterly*, vol. 14, no. 4 (October 1936), pp. 362-369.

Analysis of the interval of time between infant visits in home or clinic for health-department services in the Bellevue-Yorkville district of New York City in the case of 56 infants selected at random, shows that 57 percent of the visits to the clinic were made at intervals of less than 2 weeks, and 20 percent at intervals of 3 weeks or longer.

MATERNAL MORTALITY IN BIRMINGHAM AND JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA, 1931-35. Joint report of the Jefferson County Medical Society and Jefferson County Board of Health. Jefferson County Board of Health, Birmingham, Ala., 1936. 91 pp.

The continued high maternal death rate in this area, which is a Southern industrial area with a large Negro population, was the reason for undertaking this study. A final clinical analysis of 329 deaths reported as maternal, showed that only 244 of these could be ascribed to "maternal" causes. Among causes responsible for those deaths that were considered to be preventable are listed lack of adequate prenatal care, delay in treating complications, indiscriminate administration of pituitrin, abortions, and lack of judgment and poor technic in operative deliveries. "The same factors which produce a high mortality rate among white women also operate, but to a much greater extent, to produce a still higher rate among Negro women."

FIFTEEN-YEAR RECORD OF DIPHTHERIA CASES AND DEATHS OCCURRING IN NEW YORK STATE AND IN NORTH CAROLINA, by J.C. Knox, M.D. *Health Bulletin* (North Carolina State Board of Health, Raleigh), October 1936, p. 9.

Dr. Knox, who is State Epidemiologist for North Carolina, gives comparative figures for the years 1921 to 1935 showing the number of cases of diphtheria, the case rates, and the death rates per 100,000 population for North Carolina and New York State (exclusive of New York City). Immunization is practiced in New York more extensively than in North Carolina.

In 1935 the case rate in North Carolina was 51.5, compared with a case rate of 6.5 in New York. The death rate

in North Carolina was 4.7, whereas the death rate in New York was only .57.

"The New York figures offer proof that diphtheria may be controlled by the immunization of 33 percent of preschool children and 50 percent of school children," concludes the author.

AN EXPERIMENT IN HEALTH EDUCATION, by M. J. Bent, M.D., and Ellen F. Green, Ph.D. *Health and Physical Education* (American Physical Education Society, Ann Arbor, Mich.), vol. 7, no. 8 (October 1936), pp. 486-488, 527-528.

In the past, Tennessee statistics have shown a much higher mortality rate among Negroes than among whites in nearly all the communicable diseases, especially in tuberculosis. Among Negro school children the death rate from tuberculosis was 10 times higher than among white children of similar age. To determine the causes of the marked difference in the death rates of the two races, the State Health Department with the aid of the Rosenwald Fund conducted a 2-year epidemiological survey covering a farm section and an industrial section of Tennessee. This survey indicated that social and economic differences between the races were responsible for the difference in the death rates rather than biological differences.

To determine and correct conditions responsible for the higher Negro rate, a cooperative effort was begun by a joint health committee representing the Rosenwald Fund, the State Departments of Health and Education, and the presidents of three Nashville Negro colleges. A 5-year program of health education was begun in 1932 in three elementary schools and two colleges, under direction of Dr. Bent. First a survey of hygienic conditions was made in the three elementary schools and a health demonstration was undertaken to put into operation some of the recommendations in regard to cleanliness, sanitary conditions, and diet resulting from the survey. Special instruction was given the teachers. Courses in health education were instituted at the two colleges. Encouraging improvement in sanitary and health practices is shown as a result, and the demonstration is continuing.

CHILD LABOR

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION ADOPTED BY I.A.G.L.O.

At the annual meeting of the International Association of Governmental Labor Officials held in Topeka, September 24-26, 1936, the report of the Child-Labor Committee was given by the Chairman, L. Metcalf Walling, Rhode Island Commissioner of Labor.

In this report the progress of child-labor legislation was reviewed, and recommendations looking toward improvement in State legislation were submitted and were adopted by the Association. They include reaffirmation of the standards for State child-labor legislation adopted by the Association at its meeting in 1935, which set up, in brief: a 16-year minimum age for all occupations during school hours and for factories at any time; a 14-year minimum age for nonfactory work outside school hours; an 8-hour day and 40-hour week for minors under 18; prohibition of night work for minors under 18; requirement of employment certificates for minors under 18; and prohibition of specified hazardous occupations for minors under 18, with power given to the United States Department of Labor to add to that list.

The Association also went on record as favoring legislation fixing a minimum age of 14 for boys and of 18 for girls in street trades, with an exemption for boys 12 and over on paper routes in residential districts, and placing the enforcement of the street-trades laws in State labor departments.

Ratification of the child-labor amendment was also urged by the Association.

The Home-Work Committee, headed by Morgan R. Moony, Deputy Commissioner of Labor of Connecticut, emphasized the need for new and extended control in the field of industrial home work. Outright prohibition was acknowledged to be the most satisfactory solution of the problem, but in view of the immediate practical and legal difficulties of prohibition, stringent regulation was recommended.

The report also called attention to the interstate aspects of home-work regulation and recommended, as a means of partial control, adoption of a provision in State home-work laws making residence a condition of receiving an employer's license or requiring a nonresident employer to designate a responsible representative within the State.

The committee recognized, however, that this procedure does not solve the problem of the shipment of home-work materials into a State where there is no regulation and the subsequent competitive sale of the products of unregulated home work, and therefore recommended that the Home Work Committee appointed by the Secretary of Labor investigate the effectiveness of Federal legislation similar to the Hawes-Cooper Act regulating the interstate shipment of prison-made articles, with a view toward applying such a regulatory device to the products of industrial home work.

MARITIME CONFERENCE APPROVES RAISING MINIMUM AGE

A cable sent to the United States Department of Labor from Geneva on October 26 upon the adjournment of the Maritime Session of the International Labor Conference states that all the conventions on the agenda were adopted. The convention raising the minimum age for employment at sea from

14 to 15 years was the only one that received a unanimous vote, 81 to 0.

The other conventions adopted concern professional capacity, holidays with pay, shipowner's liability, sickness insurance, and hours and manning.

THE TREND OF CHILD LABOR IN 1936

Nearly a year and a half has passed since the invalidation of the NRA codes, which set a general 16-year minimum age for full-time employment in industry and trade, effective throughout the entire country. The effect of this minimum was the practical elimination of the employment of children under 16 in these occupations.

The common acceptance of this standard by employers and by the public in general has continued to influence employment policies in regard to the use of children even though the legal barrier has now been removed. But in spite of the great gains that have been made and the very sincere desire on the part of many employers to maintain the standards of employment established under the NRA, the lack of a national uniform minimum age subjects these employers to the unfair competition of the marginal group of employers who are willing to exploit the young and inexperienced worker. The increasing demand for labor during the past year, therefore, has brought with it a gradual return to the use of children under 16.

Reports of the number of children receiving employment certificates that permit them to leave school for work, sent to the Children's Bureau by State and local officials, show that the upward trend in child employment, which followed immediately on the invalidation of NRA codes in 1935, has continued and has increased in 1936.

There was an increase of more than 150 percent in the number of 14- and 15-year-old children certificated for employment in the first 5 months of 1936 compared with the corresponding 5 months of 1935, when the 16-year standard of the codes was in effect, according to reports from the areas in which there has been no change in the State child-labor law and for which comparable data for both years

are available (10 States, the District of Columbia, and 98 cities in other States). In round numbers 8,400 children in these areas were given regular employment certificates between January 1 and June 1, 1936 as compared with 3,350 in the corresponding 5 months of 1935.

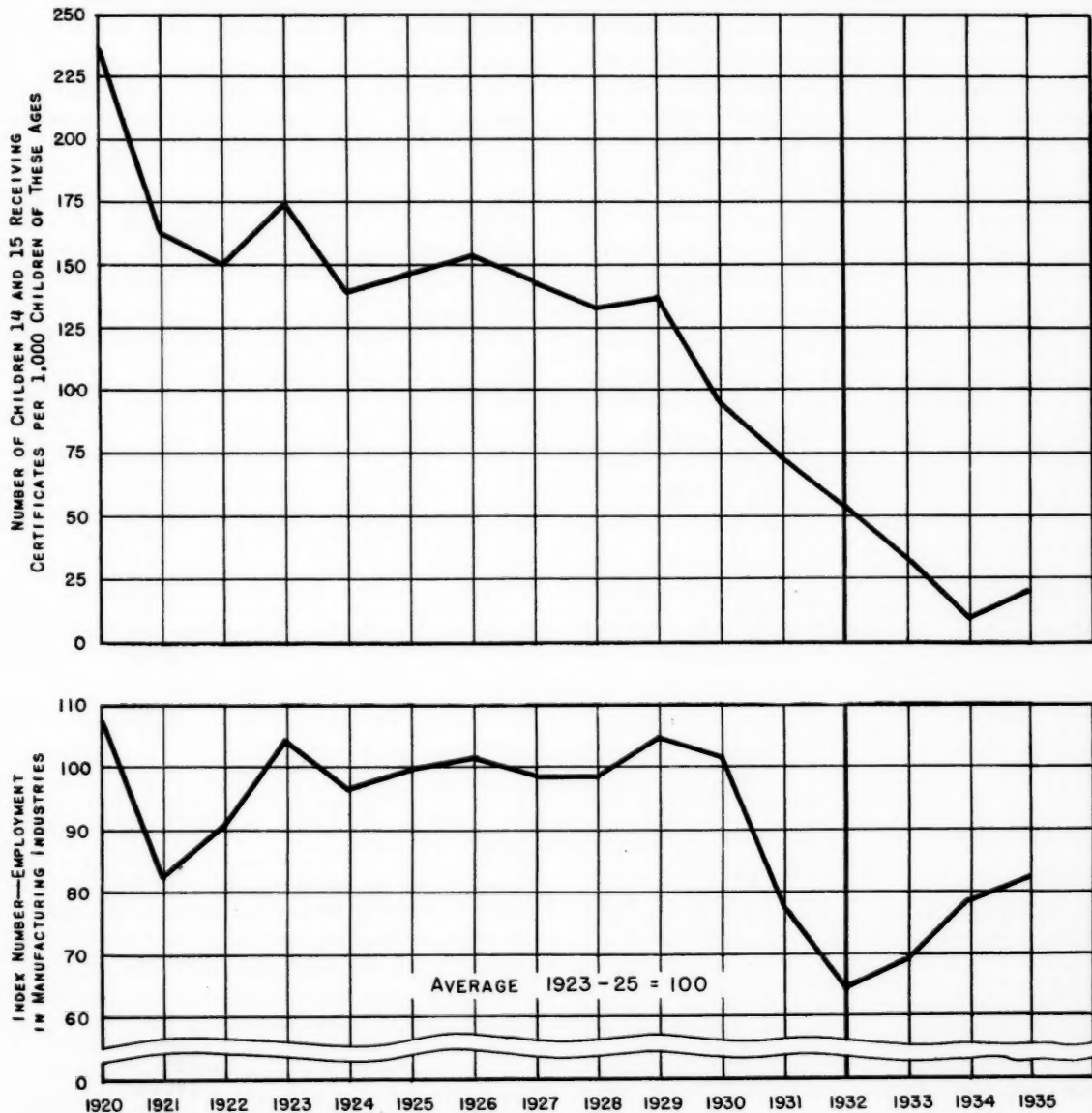
In the last 7 months of 1935, after the outlawing of the NRA codes, the number of children leaving school for work was 53 percent greater than during the 12 months of 1934. There was an increase of approximately 70 percent for the entire year 1935 compared with the entire year 1934.

Incomplete figures for occupations entered by these children during the first 5 months of 1936 indicate that more than one-fourth went to work in manufacturing, mechanical, and mercantile occupations. About one-fifth of the children entered messenger and delivery service and more than one-third left school for domestic service, either in their own or in other households. These figures illustrate the tendency that has been evident for a number of years for 14- and 15-year-old working children to go into the miscellaneous types of employment that are in many cases unregulated by State law, occupations which are very often subject to the abuses of long hours, low wages, and generally poor working conditions.

The increase in the employment of children under 16 that has occurred since May 1935 is no doubt attributable in part to the increase in employment in all age groups. It is most significant, however, that the tendency of child labor to follow the general trend of industrial employment, shown in the accompanying graph, has again appeared after it had been effectively checked for a 2-year period while a Nation-wide minimum standard was in operation.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN 14 AND 15 YEARS OF AGE RECEIVING EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATES
PER 1,000 CHILDREN OF THESE AGES IN 10 CITIES, 1920-35 (CHILDREN'S BUREAU)

INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, 1920-35 (BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS)



This chart shows that before 1933 a rise in general factory employment was accompanied by a rise in the number of employment certificates issued to children 14 and 15 years of age. From 1933, the year in which the NRA codes with a 16-year minimum age went into effect, this tendency was reversed, and during the period the

codes were in operation, employment of children decreased notwithstanding a continuing rise in factory employment. In 1935, the year the codes went out of existence, the number of certificates issued increased and the usual tendency for child labor to follow the trend of general factory employment was resumed.

CHILD-LABOR LEGISLATION IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

New law affecting child labor in Norway

The labor law recently enacted in Norway, effective January 1, 1937, raises the minimum age for employment from 14 to 15 years and prohibits the employment of persons over 15 who are still required to attend school. Children of 12 or over may be employed in drying peat and fish in the open air, delivering goods, and as messengers, provided this work is not harmful to health or morals and does not interfere with school attendance.

The minimum age for employment underground in mines or quarries is raised from 16 to 18 years, and the Government is authorized to issue regulations for the protection of persons under 18 in heavy or dangerous occupations and to limit hours of work for persons under 18 who attend evening school.

Night work is prohibited for persons under 18 with some exceptions for persons 16 and 17. The basic hours of work for all workers were reduced from 10 a day and 54 a week to 8 a day and 48 a week, and

overtime work is not permitted for persons under 18. *Norsk Lovtidende (Official collection of Laws of Norway)*, Oslo, 1936, pp. 710-735, and 1915, pp. 784-811.

French school law amended

The bill amending the school-attendance law in France, which had been in effect since 1882, became law on August 9, 1936. The new law raises the age for compulsory-school attendance and the minimum age for employment from 13 to 14 years. A clause in the old law, which permitted the employment of a child at the age of 12 if he had a certificate showing that he had finished primary school, is repealed.

The Government is ordered to take all the necessary measures for providing a sufficient number of schools and teachers.

The new law also amends the law of 1913 providing for aid to large families by raising from 13 to 14 the age of children for whom aid is given.

A separate law provides a series of measures for the enforcement of the school-attendance law. *Bulletin Legislatif Dalloz*, Paris, No. 15, 1936, pp. 537-538.

THE MINIMUM-WAGE QUESTION

The right of a State under the Constitution to enact minimum-wage legislation will come before the United States Supreme Court for the second time this year in connection with its hearing of an appeal from the State Supreme Court of Washington in the case of *Coast Hotel Co. v. Parish et al.* (No. 293, October term, 1936) on the constitutionality of the minimum-wage law of that State.

On October 12, the same day on which the Court announced that it would hear the appeal on the Washington case, it refused the petition of the State of New York to rehear the New York minimum-wage case (*Morehead v. people ex rel. Tipaldo*), which it held unconstitutional in a 5 to 4 deci-

sion last spring.

In its opinion in the New York case the Court relied on the *Adkins* case (District of Columbia) 261 U S 525, decided in 1923, and said that the question of overruling its decision in the *Adkins* case was not before the Court.

The constitutionality of the Ohio minimum-wage law of 1933 was upheld unanimously in a three-judge decision in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, Eastern Division, on November 20, 1936 (*Walker v. Chapman*). The Ohio law is similar to the New York law. An appeal is to be carried to the United States Supreme Court.

YOUTH AND ITS PROBLEMS

Report on World Youth Congress Seven hundred and fifty delegates from 36 countries attended the World Youth Congress in Geneva the first week in September.

Recommendations of the committee on unemployment, submitted to the Congress, included proposals to raise the school-leaving age, prohibit the employment of children under 16, develop vocational education, provide voluntary and non-military occupations for young unemployed persons, and offer State scholarships and grants to young persons wishing to establish homes or farms or to receive training as craftsmen.

A committee of the World Youth Congress was appointed to continue the work of the Congress and to draw up on the basis of the Congress reports, an international charter of the economic and social rights of youth. This is to be submitted to the International Labor Organization and to all Governments, and to employers' and workers' organizations. *Industrial and Labor Information (International Labor Organization, Geneva)*, vol. 60, no. 1 (Oct. 5, 1936, p. 30).

American Youth Commission research studies During its first year, 1935-36, the American Youth Commission undertook a series of three investigations to discover the needs of youth and to ascertain how these needs are being served. The fundamental objective was to secure data for making evaluation of the services which the various social and welfare agencies, the schools, and churches, and the communities are rendering to youth. For these studies, which are all in progress, were chosen the State of Maryland; the city of Dallas, Tex.; and Muncie, Ind.

Another project is a comprehensive study of the Civilian Conservation Corps camps as a social institution. Their relationships to the schools, to unemployment, and vocational education will be covered. *Statement of American Youth Commission, Washington, D.C.*

A general description of the function and program of the American Youth Commission is given by the director, Homer P. Rainey, in "The Care and Education of American Youth" (available from the American Youth Commission, 744 Jackson Place, Washington, D.C.). This is reprinted from *The Educational Record*, July 1936.

BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES

(Child Labor)

STATE COMPULSORY SCHOOL-ATTENDANCE STANDARDS AFFECTING THE EMPLOYMENT OF MINORS: STATE CHILD-LABOR STANDARDS. Prepared by Children's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor and issued by Office of Education, U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington, 1936. 55 pp. (Mimeographed.)

This is a revision to July 1, 1936, of the bulletin originally issued in 1934 and revised in 1935.

Emphasis is placed upon the regulations affecting the employment of minors under 18 years of age in industrial and commercial occupations, including regulations on compulsory school attendance and continuation-school attendance, minimum age, hours of work, employment certificates, sale of newspapers or periodicals and other street trades, hazardous occupations, and status of illegally employed minors under workmen's compensation laws.

CAUSE OF COMPENSATED ACCIDENTS TO MINORS. *Industrial Bulletin* (State of New York Department of Labor, Albany), vol. 15, no.9 (September 1936), pp. 296-297.

A detailed table showing causes of compensated accidents to minors under 17 years of age is given. Cases closed in 1935 that resulted in temporary and permanent partial disabilities are covered, and the occupation of the worker and amount of the award are listed.

Accidents to minors under 21 resulting in death or permanent total disability were listed in the June issue of the *Industrial Bulletin*, which also discussed the number, cost, and kind of compensated accidents to minors. Accidents to 17-year-old minors resulting in temporary or permanent partial disability will be covered in the October issue.

SOCIALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

NEWS AND RESEARCH NOTES

Treatment of children with behavior disorders in New York City

Society should be as much concerned with children presenting acute disorders of behavior, represented by antisocial symptoms, as it is in the more definitely physical manifestations of diseases that may be attributed to germ infection or toxic disorders, according to a recent statement by Dr. Ira S. Wile, chairman of the committee on child guidance of the Section on Mental Hygiene of the Welfare Council of New York City, in connection with the facilities and needs for treating children with behavior problems in New York City.

Except in the Borough of Manhattan existing facilities for such treatment in New York City are extremely inadequate, Dr. Wile points out, and a comprehensive program of community planning for care and prevention of mental illness, prevention of delinquency, and treatment of behavior disorders in children is needed. *Official release of Welfare Council of New York City (122 East 22nd St.), October 19, 1936.*

New Jersey delinquency survey planned

The State Juvenile Delinquency Commission created by act of the New Jersey Legislature in March 1936

has announced the appointment of Winthrop D. Lane, formerly head of the State Department of Institutions and Agencies, as director of studies. The studies will be carried on under a 2-year appropriation of

\$50,000 provided for in the law creating the commissions. *Bureau correspondence.*

Proceedings of Jewish Social Service Conference

Method of intake in children's agencies is one of the subjects discussed in "Proceedings of the

National Conference of Jewish Social Welfare." *Jewish Social Service Quarterly*, vol. 13, no. 1 (September 1936).

A paper by Ethel Copeland (pp. 126-132) gives the results of several months of staff discussion of the subject in the Juvenile Aid Society of Philadelphia.

Discussing minimum requirements for institution personnel, Dr. I. T. Broadwin (pp. 138-144) points out that every member of the staff from the gardener to the executive should be chosen in the light of his potential influence on the children.

A staff committee of the Hebrew Sheltering Guardian Society of New York City presents a paper on factors governing choice of foster homes, based on 30 first interviews (pp. 145-156) and analyzing the reasons for rejecting or accepting each application. Persons accepted as foster parents seemed to give evidence of flexibility, imagination, tolerance, and warmth. Those rejected gave indication of immaturity and a desire to dominate the child.

Several articles dealing with behavior problems of children are included in the proceedings.

BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES

SUBSTITUTE PARENTS, by Mary Buell Sayles. Commonwealth Fund, New York, 1936. 309 pp.

The pressure of demand for a constructive study of parents who deal wisely and helpfully with the children under their care was responsible for the writing of this book. A quantity of material on problem children and parental failures is

available through courts, social agencies, and child-guidance clinics, but happy and successful homes are seldom open to the investigator. The author felt that a study of foster homes already known to social workers should afford glimpses of parent-child relationships sufficiently constructive to balance in some degree the destructive ones about which so much has

been written. The book is intended for anyone interested in children from the parent's point of view, or in what foster-home relationships may mean to foster parents as well as to children.

A general discussion is given of relationships between foster parents and children and how they differ from and resemble natural parent-child relationships; motives of foster parents; and qualities desirable in foster parents and their homes.

The second half of the book contains eight detailed stories illustrating constructive handling of the foster relationship.

THE USE OF PUPPET SHOWS AS A PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC METHOD FOR BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS IN CHILDREN, by Lauretta Bender, M. D., and Adolf G. Woltmann. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, vol. 6, no. 3 (July 1936), pp. 341-354.

The children's observation ward of the Psychiatric Division of Bellevue Hospital, which cared for approximately 700 children in 1935, found puppet shows and classes in writing and giving puppet plays desirable projects for entertainment and therapy.

WHAT TO DO FOR BLIND CHILDREN, by Park Lewis, M.D. American Medical Association (535 North Dearborn St., Chicago), October 1936. 30 pp.

What can be done for blind children and what they can do for themselves is set forth in simple and sympathetic language in this brief booklet. A list of institutions for the education of the blind in the United States is given.

"NO MAN'S" CHILD SEEKS JUSTICE FROM THE WORLD. *Child and Family Welfare* (Canadian Welfare Council, Ottawa) vol. 12, no. 3 (September 1936), pp. 3-9.

The laws of various countries in regard to the rights of the child born out of wedlock are here summarized by Charlotte Whitton, with special reference to the work of the Commission on the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People of the League of Nations, of which Miss Whitton is a member.

The legal standing of children born out of wedlock varies all the way from complete equality under the code of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which states simply, "Children whose parents are not married shall enjoy the same rights as children born in wedlock," to a total lack of rights in Iraq until legitimacy is established.

MY SON--HANDICAPPED? Anonymous. *Saturday Evening Post*, September 19, 1936, pp. 8-9, 95-98.

The story of a child badly crippled by infantile paralysis at the age of 5 years, who developed into an "above-the-average college senior," is told by the mother of the boy. The long process of treatment began six months after the acute attack, when the child "began to move his head a little," and each step, psychological as well as orthopedic, is described in detail. In spite of a right leg 3 inches shorter than his left, he won a sweater with a varsity letter, and a scholarship sufficient to enable him to go on to medical school.

PLEASE NOTICE

The Children's Bureau does not distribute the publications to which reference is made in THE CHILD except those issued by the Bureau itself. Please write to the publisher or agency mentioned for all others.

GENERAL CHILD WELFARE

CHILD-WELFARE ACTIVITIES OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Conference of Central Authorities in Eastern Countries

The date of the Conference of Central Authorities in the Middle and Far East

having duties with reference to traffic in women and children, to be held under the auspices of the League of Nations, has been set for February 2, 1937. The Conference will be held in Bandoeng, Java. At its meeting on October 10, 1936, the Council of the League of Nations authorized the Secretary General to issue invitations to international organizations and missions, and to National, regional, or local organizations proposed by participating governments and experts. The following governments have indicated a desire to participate officially: The United Kingdom; China; France; India; Japan; The Netherlands; Portugal; Siam. The United States will be represented by an observer.

The conference is an outgrowth of an inquiry into conditions in the East, financed by a grant from the American Social Hygiene Association, the report of which was submitted to the Council in February, 1933.

Reorganization of the Advisory Commission for the Protection of Children and Young People

Recommendations adopted last April by a meeting of this commission sitting as a gov-

ernment body in Paris, reported in the July number of THE CHILD, were approved by the Council of the League of Nations on September 26, 1936. The commission henceforth will be entitled the "Advisory Committee on Social Questions."

The recommendations were considered by the Fifth Committee of the Assembly and included in the report on traffic in women and children submitted to the Assembly October 6, 1936. In this report the gen-

eral scope of activity of the new committee, which follows the general terms of reference of the former committee, was discussed. It was brought out that the work of the Advisory Committee on Social Questions must take into account and follow the new tendencies of social work in the countries concerned.

Two questions which the Fifth Committee hopes will be given preference in the work of the Advisory Committee are the following: (1) A comparative study of the organization and conduct of child-welfare work with reference to the competence both of the authorities and of voluntary organizations; (2) the extension of child-welfare work to populations living in other than large urban communities.

Study of placing children in family homes

A summary of the practice in various countries in regard to the placing of children in private families is included in "Social Work at the League of Nations." This was prepared by Charlotte Whitton, executive director of the Canadian Welfare Council, assessor for the Child Welfare Committee of the League, 1926-35, and since 1935, delegate from Canada to the Commission for the Protection of Children and Young People. It is based on discussions at the meetings of the Child Welfare Committee of the League of Nations, in Geneva, May 1936. *Canadian Welfare Council, Council House, Ottawa, 1936).*

Of 42 countries replying to the League questionnaire, only 5 made no provision for boarding children in families. South Australia, Denmark, Norway, Netherlands, and the City of Vienna, reported especially satisfactory results from placing children with private families rather than in institutions, with a preference in most cases for rural homes.

NEWS AND RESEARCH NOTES

Permanent research committee in Buffalo The Council of Social Agencies of Buffalo and Erie County has sent out a letter stating that the appointment of a permanent research committee has been authorized, with Sara Kerr as chairman. Copies of local studies made in the past will be made available in the Council office for the information of member agencies and other groups.

State and National groups are invited to use the Council's research committee as a clearing house for any proposed studies or investigations in Buffalo or Erie County.

The establishment of this research committee is an outgrowth of a study of social research in Buffalo, authorized by the executive board of the Buffalo Council of Social Agencies in May 1935, results of which have been published in the *Seventy-Ninth Foundation Forum* (July 1936).

Family allowances in Italy Family allowances, paid in Italy since 1934 to industrial workers employed for 40 hours a week or less, are extended by a decree of August 21, 1936, to all workers, irrespective of the hours of work, in the industrial establishments represented in the national association of industrialists.

The allowances amount to 4 lire a week (21 cents, according to the rate of exchange on October 31, 1936) paid to the head of the family for each dependent child under 14. Widows, women legally separated from their husbands, women having permanently incapacitated husbands, and unmarried mothers are also considered as heads of families.

Workers contribute 1 percent of their wages to the allowances and employers 2½ percent of each contributing employee's wage; the State's share is one-half lira (2½ cents) for each allowance paid out. *Collezione Celerifera* (Collection of Laws of Italy), Rome, No. 25-26, 1936, pp. 763-765.

BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES

(General Child Welfare)

YOUNG CHILDREN IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN THE PRESENT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PERIOD, by Mary Dabney Davis. Bulletin, 1936, No. 2, Office of Education, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, 1936. 108 pp.

Opportunity was offered to the author of this bulletin in 1934 to visit some of the European countries and observe their nursery-school programs in the light of the problems existing in the United States.

The present bulletin gives a general discussion of national and international recognition of children's needs, varying types of administration, and continuity in health and educational service. The programs, administration, and special features observed by Miss Davis in Great Britain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Italy, Belgium, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Poland are described. There are special chapters on the housing of schools for young children, teachers and other workers, health and nutrition, and also on family housing in relation to young children and on related programs for youths and adults.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON CONSUMER EDUCATION AND ORGANIZATION. Consumers' Counsel Series, Pub. No. 1, Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Washington, 1936. 33 pp.

Most of the booklet is taken up with brief descriptions of the various Federal Government agencies serving the consumer. In addition a list of nongovernmental organizations is given; also suggestions for consumers' study courses.

CHILD WELFARE OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL, by Michael Kaye, M.A., Ph.D. Oliver & Boyd, London, 1936. 245 pp.

The author, who is a lecturer in education at Goldsmiths' College and at the University of London, gives a general picture of the elements affecting child welfare, from the British point of view. The chapters deal with population, the family, housing, poverty, health, leisure, employment and unemployment, delinquency, and the function of a democratic State.

OF CURRENT INTEREST

*New Orleans
meeting of
American
Public Health
Association*

At the sixty-fifth annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, held in New Orleans, October 20-23, 1936, Dr.

A.T. McCormack, State Health Commissioner of Kentucky, was made president-elect for 1937-38 to succeed Dr. Thomas Parran, Jr.

At a meeting of the Child Hygiene Section of the American Public Health Association on October 22, 1936, reorganization of the section was discussed and much enthusiasm for the immediate development of the work of the section through committees was shown. Reference was made to the recent disbanding of the American Child Health Association, to the rapid expansion of State maternal and child-health programs with the grants in aid under the Social Security Act, and to requests for co-operation from the Section on Health Education, the American Dental Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics as showing the desirability of organizing the activities of the section through committees.

The chairman of the section was instructed to appoint a committee on organization and a committee to cooperate with the Section on Health Education. A number of working committees will be organized during the coming year. The officers and council of the Child Health Section are as follows: A. L. Beaghtler, M.D., Chairman; Don W. Gudakunst, M. D., Vice Chairman; Estella Ford Warner, M. D., Secretary; Martha M. Elliot, M. D., (1941); George P. Barth, M. D., (1940); J. H. Mason Knox, M.D., (1939); Guy S. Millberry, D.D.S., (1938); Elizabeth Gardiner, M. D., (1937).

Among committee reports presented was that of the Joint Committee of the American Public Health Association and the National Organization for Public Health Nursing to study nursing service in State health departments. This recommended that there be a unit for nursing directed by a public-health nurse in every State health department.

Preceding the regular meetings the Public Health Nursing Section arranged a joint meeting of instructors in public-health nursing and State directors in public-health nursing. The subjects discussed included provisions for appointment of public health nursing personnel to State health departments, for staff education through State departments of health, for accredited field-work experience in rural public-health nursing for students, and for the development of public health nursing services particularly requiring further study. The most urgent present need was felt to be for the preparation of public-health nurses for supervision and administration. Through allocation of social-security funds from the United States Public Health Service, it was reported, 711 public-health nurses had received stipends to attend a public health nursing course for one university term, and 74 for a longer period.

It was recommended that an annual session of this group be held in connection with the American Public Health Association meetings, and that State directors and instructors of public-health nurses, Federal public health nursing consultants, and representatives of the American Red Cross and two life-insurance companies be invited to attend.



IN MEMORIAM MARY McDOWELL

The death of Mary McDowell, founder of the University of Chicago Settlement House, occurred in Chicago on October 14, 1936. Miss McDowell was nearly 82 years old at the time of her death. Her long and active career, described in the *New York Times* (October 15, 1936), began when at the age of 16 she aided in relief work after the great Chicago fire. She became a close friend of Jane Addams at Hull House and was the director and head resident of the University of Chicago Settlement from the time it was established, 42 years ago.

For many years Miss McDowell was vice-president of the Illinois Trade Union League. She was active in the work of the Advisory Council of the Council of National Defense during the War. From 1923 to 1927 she was Commissioner of Public Welfare in Chicago.

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

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| 1936 | | Dec. 28-30, American Association for the Advancement of Science. Atlantic City, N.J. |
| Dec. 2-4, | Personnel Research Federation. Annual conference, New York, N.Y. | Dec. 28-31, National Conference on College Hygiene. Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D.C. |
| Dec. 2-5, | American Vocational Association. Thirtieth annual vocational convention, San Antonio, Tex. | 1937 |
| Dec. 3-5, | National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, Inc. Annual conference, Columbus, Ohio. | January 18, National Committee on Education by Radio. New York, N.Y. |
| Dec. 10-12, | National Conference on Educational Broadcasting. Auspices of United States Office of Education and Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. | Jan. 23-25, Child Labor Day. Sponsored by National Child Labor Committee, 419 Fourth Ave., New York, N.Y. |
| Dec. 10-12, | American Public Welfare Association. Washington. Opening meeting, evening of Dec. 10, followed by two days of round-table discussions. | Feb. 16-19, National Vocational Guidance Association. Convention, New Orleans, La. |
| Dec. 28-30, | American Statistical Association; American Sociological Society; American Economic Association. Annual meetings, Chicago, Ill. | Feb. 17-20, American Council of Guidance and Personnel Associations and Member Organizations. New Orleans, La. |
| | | Feb. 18-20, American Orthopsychiatric Association. Fourteenth annual meeting, Roosevelt Hotel, New York, N. Y. |
| | | Feb. 25-27, National Progressive Education Association. Annual convention, St. Louis, Mo. |



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